



District Newsletter

City Council District 7

April 2019

Dear neighbors,

In the past two years, we have made great strides together. In 2017, I revised the District 7 zoning practices to ensure neighborhoods were informed of any proposed zoning changes and also updated the city-wide policy for State-funded housing developments to promote more community engagement.

With your input, I voted on one of the most important decisions Council has taken in the last two years – the appointment of City Manager Erik Walsh. Thanks to your comments at our town halls, we were able to ensure that the selection process was transparent and centered around neighborhood concerns.

And this month, we've launched our second annual Property Tax Workshop series to help you protest your tax appraisals and gain insight into the appraisal process. But that's not all we're doing with regards to taxes. Council is considering a homestead exemption and, in collaboration with our local school districts,

fighting for meaningful tax relief at the State legislature.

We know you value accountability and accessibility. Since taking office, we've attended over 200 HOA and Neighborhood Association meetings and hosted 32 community events. We're always ready to hear your ideas and concerns and offer our resources. We've addressed over 2,000 constituent cases like speedhumps, street repairs, and code compliance. We've held monthly office hours to meet with you personally one-on-one. And every week, we've issued a weekly electronic newsblast – a total of 92 in the past two years.

Thank you for placing your trust in me to serve our community.

Yours in public service,

Text DISTRICT7 to 22828 to sign up for weekly email updates on city news!

Find us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SanAntonioCityCouncilDistrict7



BANDERA ROAD

CORRIDOR PLAN

Last year, my office brought together the Texas Department of Transportation, the City, and our neighbors to develop a comprehensive solution to congestion on Bandera Rd and a revitalization of the corridor that connects one end of the District to the other. Because this issue is important to you, the City of San Antonio is working jointly with TxDOT to engage the public, identify congestion relief solutions, and bring more desirable businesses to Bandera Rd.

Join the City of San Antonio's Planning Department, staff from the Districts 6, 7 and 8 Council Offices and me to kick off the Bandera Rd Corridor Plan on April 29 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at City Church on 9431 Bandera Rd.

Do you use Bandera Road? Take the survey at: tinyurl.com/BanderaSurvey.

THE BANDERA ROAD TASK FORCE

invites you to a

COMMUNITY MEETING

APRIL 29

CITY CHURCH BANDERA ROAD
9431 BANDERA ROAD
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 P.M.

Bandera Road Website
sanantonio.gov/Planning/Bandera-Road-Corridor-Plan

Bandera Road Survey
tinyurl.com/BanderaSurvey

Welcome, City Manager Walsh!

In February, the District 7 Office invited community leaders to meet Erik Walsh, our new City Manager.



As the City's CEO, Walsh oversees 13,000 employees and manages a budget of \$2.8 billion. Erik is a San Antonio native, and a Central Catholic H.S. and Trinity University graduate. In his 24 years with the city, he has led budget development and fiscal policy, and overseen operations of the Solid Waste, Fire, Police, and many other Departments.

District 7 Zoning Process

Zoning changes have a permanent impact on our neighborhoods. That's why my office takes this process seriously and requires applicants to take certain steps.

First, we ask that they meet with our council office to discuss their plans. What are they planning to build? How will it affect the neighbors? We want to know!

Neighborhoods have told us time and time again, that you want to have a voice in shaping the growth of our city. That's why we also ask all zoning applicants to reach out to the HOA's and neighborhood associations surrounding their site. We want to ensure that you are informed and that you have an opportunity to share your input.

REZONING

CASE # _____

CONTACT # _____

PURPOSE: FROM _____ TO _____

www.sanantonio.gov/DSD/Boards/Zoning



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Reducing Flood Risk



2300 block of W Woodlawn Ave. (July 2002)

District 7 has the greatest number of buildings in the floodplain. That means life-safety risks for our residents, along with the risk of damage to their homes and property. Much of our community was built before the Federal Emergency Management Agency existed and before flood maps were ever drawn. Therefore, we have a lot of catching up to do to protect older neighborhoods and to ensure newer neighborhoods and streets are built to the safest standards.

That's why our office hosted two community meetings with the City's Stormwater Management Team. The sessions featured hands-on activities in which residents identified problem flooding locations. This information will help my office prioritize and accelerate funding for drainage relief.

Driving Range Coming to O.P. Schnabel Park

Residents asked and the City responded – a driving range is coming to O.P. Schnabel Park. In 2018 the Parks and Recreation Department held four community input meetings on the development of the newly acquired parkland, the 94 acres that were formerly the Alamo Golf Course. The City made this \$7.3 million land purchase in 2017.

Many meeting attendees requested continuation of the golfing operations, so the City issued a request for bids for a golf course operator and a driving range operator. No bids were received for the course operation. However, a bid was received for the driving range. The City is currently negotiating that contract. The driving range is expected to be operational by this fall.

For more information on other plans for the new parkland, please contact Sandy Jenkins with the Parks department at 210-207-2721 or Sandy.Jenkins@sanantonio.gov. To check the status of upcoming park improvements included in the bond, visit www.sanantonio.gov/2017Bond

2019 Property Tax Workshops

For the second year in a row our office is hosting Property Tax Appraisal workshops at no cost to you. Register by calling 210-207-0870 or visiting tinyurl.com/D7TaxWorkshop.

Rising property values put pressure on residents. These workshops present effective strategies to protest your appraisal value and ensure you have the proper exemptions registered. Last year's participants reported reductions in values of up to \$25,000.

This year's workshops are scheduled for:

- April 6
- April 17
- April 29
- May 9

These efforts complement the City's efforts to bring meaningful tax relief to residents via advocacy at the State legislature.



Connect with your SAFFE Officers

As Chair of City Council's Public Safety Committee, promoting public safety resources is important to me. SAFFE (San Antonians for Fear Free Environments) Officers are police officers dedicated to neighborhood policing. They will work with you to address speeding issues, problem houses and even homelessness concerns.

Find the SAFFE officer dedicated to your neighborhood or HOA community by contacting our office at 210-207-0870.

Resources for Seniors

District 7 seniors have access to a wealth of resources at the City's Senior Centers. These centers exist to give seniors a place to congregate to share meals, participate in activities and access needed services.

Doris Griffin Senior Center 210.780.7444
6157 NW Loop 410, San Antonio, TX 78238

Bob Ross Senior Center 210.207.5300
2219 Babcock, San Antonio, TX 78229

San Antonio, Let's Talk!

In January, Council unanimously adopted my resolution on improving transparency and public participation at City Hall. One of the first improvements is the newly redesigned SASpeakUp.com, a central website that now houses all current public input opportunities! Visit SASpeakUp.com to learn about and give your opinion on things like scooters, the City budget, the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and much more!

Stay tuned for more improvements, including broadcasts of all City Council committee meetings!



Let's Have Coffee!

Each month, I have coffee one-on-one with District 7 residents to hear what's important for their neighborhood. Coffee appointments are held the first Saturday of each month and are 20 minutes long.

To make an appointment, call 210-207-0870 or send an email to district7@sanantonio.gov.

Your District 7 Field Offices

Brass Professional Center

4414 Centerview Dr #160
210-207-0870

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Or by appointment.

district7@sanantonio.gov

Maury Maverick Library

8700 Mystic Park
210-207-0877

Monday - Friday: 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Or by appointment.